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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part III)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 91 (see A/48/717, para. 2). Action to be taken on the item was further considered at the 39th and 47th meetings, on 23 November and 10 December. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.39 and 47).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.14 and Rev.1

2. On 12 November, the Chairman of the Committee submitted a draft resolution entitled "International code of conduct on the transfer of technology" (A/C.2/48/L.14), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 47/182 of 22 December 1992, on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology,

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/C.2/48/717 and addenda.

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on negotiations on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology: consultations carried out in 1993; 1/

"2. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in line with the relevant provisions of the Cartagena Commitment, 2/ to undertake further consultations with Governments on an international code of conduct on the transfer of technology and to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the outcome of these consultations."

3. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution submitted by the Chairman (A/C.2/48/L.14/Rev.1).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.14/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.21

5. At the 39th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, subsequently joined by Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries" (A/C.2/48/L.21).

6. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.21 by a recorded vote of 85 to 33, with 14 abstentions (see para. 23, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows: 3/

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico,

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1/ A/48/533, annex.

2/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

3/ Subsequently, the delegation of Mauritania indicated that had it been present during the vote, it would have voted in favour.

Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Panama, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain.

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

C. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.22 and L.81

9. At the 39th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Zambia, on behalf of Afghanistan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Ethiopia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Paraguay, Rwanda, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries" (A/C.2/48/L.22), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991 and all other relevant resolutions of the United Nations relating to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries,

"Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the land-locked developing countries,

"Recognizing also that fifteen of the land-locked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

"Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

"Recalling that measures to deal with the transit problems of land-locked developing countries require closer and even more effective cooperation and collaboration between those countries and their transit neighbours,

"Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted on 10 December 1982, 4/

"Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements and regional and subregional cooperation and integration in comprehensively solving the transit problems of the land-locked developing countries and improving the transit-transport systems in land-locked and transit developing countries,

"Noting the importance of strengthening the existing international support measures with a view to further addressing the problems of land-locked developing countries,

"1. Reaffirms the right of access of land-locked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

"2. Also reaffirms that transit developing countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for land-locked developing countries should in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

"3. Calls upon both the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours, within the spirit of South-South cooperation, including bilateral cooperation, to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts in dealing with their transit problems;

"4. Appeals once again to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries envisaged in the previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 5/ in the Declaration on International

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4/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

5/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly and contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and in the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s; 6/

"5. Invites the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours to intensify further their cooperative arrangements for the development of transit infrastructures, institutions and services to facilitate a more rapid movement of goods in transit with financial and technical assistance from donors and financial agencies;

"6. Emphasizes that assistance for the improvement of transport-transit facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the land-locked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for long-term restructuring of the economies of the land-locked developing countries;

"7. Urges donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide land-locked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

"8. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to further promote, as appropriate, subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes and to expand its support in the transport and communications sectors to the land-locked and transit developing countries and its technical cooperation for development geared towards promoting national and collective self-reliance among them;

"9. Endorses the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions 7/ and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to organize, in close collaboration with the regional commissions, a symposium, to be convened in 1994, for land-locked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions to address specific regional problems in implementing the recommendations of the meeting mentioned in paragraph 9 above;

6/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

7/ TD/B/40(1)2-TD/B/LDC/AC.14.

"11. Also requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene in 1995 another meeting of governmental experts from land-locked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions to review progress in the development of the transit systems in the land-locked and transit developing countries and to recommend further appropriate action, to be forwarded to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

"12. Takes note with appreciation of the results of the specific studies on transit issues prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and encourages the international community to make use of those studies, as appropriate, when devising strategies to address the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries;

"13. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to submit the results of the above-mentioned studies to the symposium mentioned in paragraph 10 above for further follow-up, as appropriate;

"14. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek extrabudgetary resources from the United Nations Development Programme and other voluntary contributions for the purpose mentioned in paragraph 8 above;

"15. Notes with appreciation the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in formulating international measures to deal with the special problems of the land-locked developing countries, and urges the Conference, inter alia, to keep under constant review the evolution of transport-transit infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of interest to land-locked developing countries;

"16. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures to enhance the capacity of the Conference, within existing resources for the biennium 1994-1995, in the area dealing with land-locked developing countries so as to ensure the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution and of existing measures in support of those countries;

"17. Urges the international community and the preparatory bodies of all relevant forthcoming major meetings and conferences of the United Nations system to take into account, in the preparation of documentation, the specific needs and requirements of land-locked developing countries and the participation of those countries in such meetings and conferences;

"18. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to

the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries, 8/ and the action taken by the Trade and Development Board related to those particular needs and problems, as set forth in the reports of the Board on the second part of its thirty-ninth session, 9/ and on the first part of its fortieth session, 10/ and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare another report, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution, for submission to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session."

10. At its 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution, submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.22 (A/C.2/48/L.81).

11. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the programme budget implications (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C/2/48/L.81 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution III).

13. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.81, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.22 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

D. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.23 and L.79

14. At the 39th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Afghanistan, also on behalf of Tajikistan, and Turkey, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Assistance to land-locked States in Central Asia and Transcaucasia" (A/C.2/48/L.23) and orally revised it by deleting the words "and Transcaucasia" in the title, the second preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 1. The draft resolution, as orally revised, read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the agreed conclusions and recommendations on priority areas and modalities for further action to improve transit systems in land-locked and transit developing countries of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-Locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, convened by the Trade and Development Board at United Nations Headquarters in May 1993, as set forth in the report of the Meeting, 11/

8/ A/48/487, annex.

9/ A/48/15 (vol. I).

10/ A/48/15 (vol. II).

11/ TD/B/40(1)2-TD/B/LDC/AC.14.

"Recalling also those paragraphs of the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting pertaining to the newly independent land-locked States in Central Asia,

"Noting that these countries are seeking to enter world markets and that such an objective requires the establishment of a multi-country transit system,

"Emphasizing the importance of elaborating a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment, including better coordination between railway and highway transports, in the land-locked and transit developing countries concerned,

"1. Recognizes that various forms of international technical and financial assistance will be required to improve the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent land-locked and transit developing countries in Central Asia, including a general survey of transit infrastructure and rehabilitation needs in support of national and regional efforts and programmes;

"2. Also recognizes that the work being done by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and by the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in this context can provide a basis for further elaboration;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme to evaluate the transit system of the land-locked countries and the transit developing countries concerned and to elaborate a programme for improving their transit facilities, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

15. At its 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution, submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.23 (A/C.2/48/L.79).

16. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the programme budget implications (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.79 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution IV).

18. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.79, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.23 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

E. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.75

19. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft decision submitted by him entitled "Third United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices" (A/C.2/48/L.75).

20. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on the programme budget implications (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

21. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.2/48/L.75 without a vote (see para. 25).

22. After the adoption of the draft decision, the representative of Senegal made a statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

23. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

International code of conduct on the transfer of technology

The General Assembly

1. Recognizes that the conditions do not currently exist to reach full agreement on all outstanding issues in the draft code of conduct on the transfer of technology and also that, should Governments indicate, either directly or through the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development reporting in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/214 of 20 December 1991, that there is the convergence of views necessary to reach agreement on all outstanding issues, then the Trade and Development Board should re-engage and continue its work aimed at facilitating agreement on the code;

2. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, based on the relevant provisions of the Cartagena Commitment 12/ and taking into account the findings of the ad hoc Working Group on the Interrelationship between Investment and Technology Transfer, to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the state of the discussion.

12/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing international trade and trade policies for development contained in the relevant resolutions and rules of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade,

Reaffirming its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989 and 46/210 of 20 December 1991,

Gravely concerned that the use of coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on the worldwide effort to move towards a non-discriminatory, open trading system,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/210, and the ideas contained therein, 13/

Concerned that the mandate as contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 46/210 has not been fully implemented,

Taking into account the restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat and the consequent reallocation of functions,

1. Calls upon the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use by some developed countries of unilateral economic coercive measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations, as a means of forcibly imposing the will of one State on another;

2. Urges the implementation of its resolutions 44/215 and 46/210;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to assign to the Department of Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat, in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the function of continuing to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature, as well as to

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13/ A/48/535.

continue the preparation of studies in this field as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 44/215 and 46/210;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989 and 46/212 of 20 December 1991,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the land-locked developing countries,

Recognizing also that fifteen of the land-locked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Recalling that measures to deal with the transit problems of land-locked developing countries require closer and even more effective cooperation and collaboration between those countries and their transit neighbours,

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted on 10 December 1982, 14/

Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements and regional and subregional cooperation and integration in comprehensively solving the transit problems of the land-locked developing countries and improving the transit-transport systems in land-locked and transit developing countries,

Noting the importance of strengthening the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of land-locked developing countries,

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14/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

1. Reaffirms the right of access of land-locked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

2. Also reaffirms that transit developing countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for land-locked developing countries should in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

3. Calls upon both the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours, in the spirit of South-South cooperation, including bilateral cooperation, to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts in dealing with their transit problems;

4. Appeals once again to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries envisaged in the previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 15/ the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly and contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s; 16/

5. Invites the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours to intensify further their cooperative arrangements for the development of transit infrastructures, institutions and services to facilitate the faster movement of goods in transit with financial and technical assistance from donors and financial agencies;

6. Emphasizes that assistance for the improvement of transport-transit facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the land-locked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for long-term restructuring of the economies of the land-locked developing countries;

7. Calls upon donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide land-locked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

15/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

16/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

8. Invites the United Nations Development Programme further to promote, as appropriate, subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes and to expand its support in the transport and communications sectors to the land-locked and transit developing countries and its technical cooperation for development geared towards promoting national and collective self-reliance among them;

9. Takes note of the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions 17/ held in New York in May 1993, and endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to convene in 1995, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 1994-1995, another meeting of governmental experts from land-locked and transit developing countries, representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions to review progress in the development of the transit systems in the land-locked and transit developing countries on the basis of an evaluation of the transit systems of those countries to be made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in cooperation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and to recommend further appropriate action, including elaboration of programmes for further improvement of those transit systems, to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

11. Takes note of the results of the specific studies on transit issues prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and encourages the international community to make use of them, as appropriate, when devising strategies to address the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries;

12. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to organize, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 1994-1995, and in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the executive heads of the regional commissions, a symposium in 1994 for land-locked and transit developing countries to address specific regional problems in implementing the recommendations of the Meeting mentioned in paragraph 9 above and to submit the results of the studies mentioned in paragraph 11 above to that symposium;

13. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek voluntary contributions to ensure participation of representatives of land-locked and transit developing countries in the meeting and symposium mentioned in paragraphs 10 and 12 above;

14. Takes note with appreciation of the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in formulating international measures to deal with the Conference to, inter alia, keep under constant review the evolution of transport-transit infrastructure facilities, institutions and

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17/ TD/B/40(1)2-TD/B/LDC/AC.14.

services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point on cross-regional issues of interest to land-locked developing countries;

15. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures to enhance the capacity of the Conference, within existing resources for the biennium 1994-1995, in the area dealing with land-locked developing countries so as to ensure the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution and of existing measures in support of land-locked developing countries;

16. Invites the international community and the preparatory bodies of all relevant forthcoming major meetings and conferences of the United Nations system to take into account, in the preparation of documentation, the specific needs and requirements of land-locked and transit developing countries in the preparation of documentation and participation of those countries in the meetings and conferences;

17. Welcomes the reports of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific action related to the specific needs and problems of land-locked developing countries and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare another report, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution, for submission to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Assistance to land-locked States in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries" and expecting that the newly independent land-locked States in Central Asia will participate in the activities and meetings referred to in that resolution,

Recalling also the agreed conclusions and recommendations on priority areas and modalities for further action to improve transit systems in land-locked and transit developing countries of the Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, convened by the Trade and Development Board in New York in May 1993, as set forth in the report of the Meeting, 18/

18/ TD/B/40(1)2-TD/B/LDC/AC.14.

Recalling further those paragraphs of the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting pertaining to the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing country neighbours,

Noting that these countries are seeking to enter world markets and that such an objective requires the establishment of a multi-country transit system,

Emphasizing the importance of elaborating a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment, including better coordination between railway and highway transports, in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing country neighbours,

Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements, multilateral agreements and regional and subregional cooperation and integration in comprehensively solving the transit problems of the land-locked developing countries and improving the transit transport systems in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing country neighbours,

1. Recognizes that various forms of international technical and financial assistance will be required to improve the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing country neighbours, including a general survey of transit infrastructure and rehabilitation needs in support of national and regional efforts and programmes;

2. Also recognizes that the work being done by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and by the Economic Cooperation Organization in this context can provide a basis for further elaboration;

3. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, to evaluate the transit system of the newly independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing country neighbours and to elaborate a programme for improving their transit facilities, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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24. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Third United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices

The General Assembly takes note of the recommendation of the Second United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, held at Geneva from 26 November to 7 December 1990, that a third review conference be convened in 1995, and, taking into account the work being done in that field by relevant intergovernmental bodies, decides to convene, under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, a Third United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, at Geneva in 1995.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990S

Report of the Second Committee (Part IV)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on item 91 (see A/48/717, para. 2). Action to the taken on sub-item (b) was considered at the 19th and 47th meetings, on 28 October and 10 December. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.19 and 47).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/48/L.8 AND L.76

2. At the 19th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/48/L.8), which read as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts under the symbol A/48/717 and addenda.

"Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 46/156 of 19 December 1991 on the implementation of the Programme of Action and 47/173 of 22 December 1992 on the implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

"Recalling also its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the annex to which contains the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of the Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the document entitled 'A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment', 1/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, and the texts adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly Agenda 21, 2/

"Taking note of the declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 30 September 1993 in pursuance of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting held at Dhaka in February 1990, 3/

"Recalling that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and to set them on the path of sustained growth and development,

"Noting that while the least developed countries, for their part, have been implementing courageous and far-reaching policy reforms and adjustment measures in line with the Programme of Action, implementation of international support measures and commitments has fallen far short of the provisions of the Programme of Action,

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1/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution I, annex II.

3/ A/C.2/48/4.

"Expressing serious concern about the continued deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries as a whole,

"Also expressing concern about the growing debt stock and debt-service burden of the least developed countries, the shrinking market for their products and the declining flow of development resources,

"Stressing that the mid-term review of the implementation of the Programme of Action provides a unique opportunity for the least developed countries and their development partners to formulate comprehensive corrective measures with a view to enhancing the implementation of the Programme of Action during the rest of the 1990s,

"Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General, 4/

"1. Reaffirms the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

"2. Calls upon all Governments, international and multilateral organizations, financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to implement fully the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s as a matter of urgency;

"3. Welcomes the fundamental and far-reaching domestic reforms that have been or are being implemented by the least developed countries;

"4. Strongly urges the international community, in particular the donor countries and organizations, to strengthen the implementation of their commitments in all areas, as set out in the Programme of Action, so as to provide adequate external support to the efforts of the least developed countries, and to keep under review the possibility of implementing further new steps in specific areas of importance to the least developed countries;

"5. Calls upon the donor countries to upwardly adjust the aid targets and commitments contained in the Programme of Action to fully reflect the additional requirements of countries added to the list of the least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General, in conformity with paragraph 142 of the Programme of Action, 5/ to continue to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United

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4/ A/48/333.

5/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

Nations system in the implementation and follow-up of the Programme of Action, in close collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the secretariats of the regional commissions and the lead agencies of aid programmes;

"7. Calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to initiate further innovative measures to mobilize adequate resources for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

"8. Stresses the importance of effective follow-up and monitoring mechanisms for the Programme of Action, and notes that the annual follow-up of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action undertaken by the Trade and Development Board on the basis of the annual report on the least developed countries helps contribute to the development dialogue between those countries and their development partners and urges that that exercise be strengthened;

"9. Notes with concern the declining resource position of the United Nations Development Programme during its fifth programming cycle and urges all concerned to take steps to protect the allocation of indicative planning figures to the least developed countries;

"10. Welcomes the initiatives of some developed countries to write off the official debt of the least developed countries and urges others to take similar measures for the full cancellation of the bilateral debt of those countries as well as measures for a substantial reduction or cancellation of their debt stock and debt-service burden owed to multilateral financial institutions and commercial creditors;

"11. Reiterates that increased opportunities for trade can help reactivate economic growth in the least developed countries and calls for unrestricted market access for their products, particularly through the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers and the granting of special and differential treatment in the context of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

"12. Takes note with concern of the environmental and development challenges facing the least developed countries and their vulnerability in this regard and urges development partners to provide those countries with additional resources to enhance their capacity to achieve sustainable development;

"13. Invites the preparatory bodies of all relevant forthcoming major meetings and conferences of the United Nations system to take into account the particular needs and requirements of the least developed countries;

"14. Welcomes the positive contribution of the non-governmental organizations in the least developed countries in the fields of socio-economic development;

"15. Decides to convene a mid-term global review conference on the implementation of the Programme of Action in the early part of September 1995 or any suitable date in the second half of 1995;

"16. Stresses the importance of timely, adequate and thorough preparations for the mid-term global review conference, and accordingly requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the capacity of Secretary-General of the mid-term global review conference to undertake the necessary preparatory activities, including designating an executive secretary for the conference;

"17. Requests the Trade and Development Board to consider, at its spring session in 1994, the elaboration of the preparatory activities for the mid-term global review conference, including intergovernmental, expert, sectoral and inter-agency preparatory meetings and the substantive documentation;

"18. Urges all Governments and international organizations, including multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, to take adequate steps to ensure appropriate preparations for an in-depth mid-term global review of the Programme of Action;

"19. Requests all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit reports containing a review of the implementation of the Programme of Action within their respective fields of competence, with special emphasis on areas where commitments have remained unfulfilled and proposals for corrective measures, as further input to the preparation for the mid-term global review conference;

"20. Stresses the need to maintain the institutional identity and visibility of the Division for the Least Developed Countries in the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which is entrusted with the task of global monitoring and follow-up of the Programme of Action, and the need to keep under review the resource requirements of the Division in the light of the mid-term global review conference and its follow-up, and welcomes the action taken by the Secretary-General to fill the vacant post of Director of the Division;

"21. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 46/156, to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to ensure the participation of at least one representative of each least developed country at the spring sessions of the Trade and Development Board, as well as at the preparatory intergovernmental meetings for the mid-term global review conference;

"22. Decides to consider at its forty-ninth session preparations for the mid-term global review conference as well as the question of meeting the cost of full and effective participation of representatives of the least developed countries in that conference;

"23. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.76), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.8.

4. The Committee had before it a statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.8, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/48/L.20).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.76 without a vote (see para. 8).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.76, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.8 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.2/48/SR.47).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/206 of 21 December 1990, in which it endorsed the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 46/156 of 19 December 1991 on the implementation of the Programme of Action and 47/173 of 22 December 1992 on the implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling also its resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the annex to which contains the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of the Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the document entitled "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", 6/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and

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6/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

Development at its eighth session and the texts adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, particularly Agenda 21, 7/

Taking note of the declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 30 September 1993, in pursuance of the decision taken at the Ministerial Meeting held at Dhaka in February 1990, 8/

Recalling that the prime objective of the Programme of Action is to arrest the further deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries, to reactivate and accelerate their growth and development and to set them on the path of sustained growth and development,

Noting that while many least developed countries, for their part, have been implementing courageous and far-reaching policy reforms and adjustment measures in line with the Programme of Action, implementation of international support measures and commitments by a number of donor countries has fallen short of the provisions of the Programme of Action,

Expressing serious concern about the continued deterioration in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries as a whole,

Also expressing concern about the heavy debt stock and debt-service burden of the least developed countries, the limited market for their products and the reduced flow of development resources,

Stressing that the mid-term review of the implementation of the Programme of Action provides a unique opportunity for the least developed countries and their development partners to take new measures as necessary, with a view to enhancing the implementation of the Programme of Action during the rest of the 1990s,

Stressing also that the implementation of the Programme of Action provides for a mid-term review that should be organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action, the results of which will be submitted to the General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General, 9/

1. Reaffirms the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

7/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution I, annex II.

8/ A/C.2/48/4.

9/ A/48/333.

2. Calls upon all Governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions and development funds, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all other organizations concerned to take concrete measures to implement fully the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s as a matter of urgency;

3. Welcomes the fundamental and far-reaching domestic reforms that have been or are being implemented by the least developed countries and notes that such efforts should be continued;

4. Notes the efforts of the international community, in particular the donor countries, to try to fulfil their commitments in all areas, as set out in the Programme of Action, and urges the provision of adequate external support to the efforts of the least developed countries, keeping under review the possibility of implementing further new steps in specific areas of importance to the least developed countries;

5. Calls upon the donor countries to fulfil their aid commitments as contained in the Programme of Action on a priority basis and upwardly adjust them to reflect fully the additional resource requirements of the least developed countries, including those added to the list of least developed countries following the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

6. Stresses that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities by the least developed countries for their economic growth and development, as well as a strong and committed partnership between those countries and their development partners;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in conformity with paragraph 142 of the Programme of Action, 10/ to continue to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the implementation and follow-up of the Programme of Action, in close collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the secretariats of the regional commissions and the lead agencies of aid programmes;

8. Calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to initiate further innovative measures to provide and mobilize financial and technical support for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. Stresses the importance of effective follow-up and monitoring mechanisms for the Programme of Action, and notes that the annual follow-up of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action undertaken by the Trade and Development Board on the basis of the annual report on the least developed countries helps contribute to the development dialogue between those

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10/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

countries and their development partners and urges that that exercise be strengthened;

10. Notes with concern the constrained resource position of the United Nations Development Programme during its fifth programming cycle and its impact on the least developed countries, and urges all concerned to take steps to carry out their agreed development programmes;

11. Welcomes the initiatives of some donor countries to write off and/or reduce as appropriate the official debt of the least developed countries, and invites others to take similar measures;

12. Reiterates that increased opportunities for trade can help reactivate economic growth in the least developed countries, and calls for significantly improved market access for their products, particularly through the elimination, wherever possible, or substantial reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers, as well as giving special attention to the problems of the least developed countries within the context of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, with a view to integrating them in the global trading system;

13. Takes note with concern of the environmental and development challenges facing the least developed countries and their vulnerability in this regard, and urges development partners to provide those countries with additional resources to enhance their capacity to achieve sustainable development;

14. Invites the preparatory bodies and all relevant forthcoming major meetings and conferences of the United Nations system, particularly the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to take into account the particular needs and requirements of the least developed countries in formulating their final documents;

15. Welcomes the positive contribution of the non-governmental organizations in the least developed countries in the field of socio-economic development;

16. Decides to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and its resolution 45/206, a mid-term global review on the implementation of the Programme of Action in the early part of September 1995, or any other suitable date during the second half of 1995;

17. Stresses the importance of timely, adequate and thorough preparations for the mid-term global review;

18. Requests the Trade and Development Board to consider, at its spring session in 1994, the elaboration of the preparatory activities for the mid-term global review conference, including intergovernmental, expert, sectoral and inter-agency preparatory meetings and the substantive documentation;

19. Urges all Governments and international organizations, including multilateral and bilateral financial and technical assistance institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, to take adequate steps to ensure appropriate preparations for an in-depth mid-term global review of the Programme of Action;

20. Requests all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit reports containing a review of the implementation of the Programme of Action within their respective fields of competence, with special emphasis on areas where commitments have remained unfulfilled, and proposals for new measures as necessary, as further inputs to the preparation for the mid-term global review;

21. Stresses the importance of maintaining the institutional identity and visibility of the Division for the Least Developed Countries in the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which is entrusted with the task of global-level monitoring and follow-up of the Programme of Action, and welcomes the action taken by the Secretary-General to fill the vacant post of Director of the Division;

22. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 46/156, to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to ensure the participation of at least one representative from each least developed country at the spring sessions of the Trade and Development Board, as well as at the preparatory intergovernmental, expert, sectoral and inter-agency meetings for the mid-term review process;

23. Decides to consider at its forty-ninth session the recommendations of the Trade and Development Board on the preparations for the mid-term global review, as well as the question of meeting the cost of full and effective participation of representatives of the least developed countries in that meeting;

24. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

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Agenda item 91 (c)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: EFFECTIVE MOBILIZATION AND INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part V)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 91 (see A/48/717, para. 2). No action was taken under sub-item (c).

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* The report on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/48/717 and addenda.

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Forty-eighth session
Agenda item 91 (d)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report of the Second Committee (Part VI)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 91 (see A/48/717, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (d) was considered at the 19th, 40th, 45th and 46th meetings, on 28 October, 24 November and 6 and 9 December 1993. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.19, 40, 45 and 46).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.7 and L.54

2. At the 19th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries" (A/C.2/48/L.7), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing

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* The report on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/48/717 and addenda.

Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 1/ and 46/159 of 19 December 1991, other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41 of 30 July 1992,

"Stressing that technical cooperation among developing countries remains a key element in international cooperation, that it has a complementary role with other forms of international technical cooperation and that its final purpose is to promote economic growth and development - in particular human resources development - utilizing the capacities of developing countries,

"Reaffirming that, while developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing technical cooperation among themselves, the United Nations system and developed countries should assist and support such activities, and that the United Nations system should continue to play a prominent role as promoter and catalyst of technical cooperation among developing countries, in accordance with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

"Noting with satisfaction that in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/159 2/ it was stated that the organizations of the United Nations system had reported an increased emphasis on activities in technical cooperation among developing countries and had adopted policies to accelerate the use of such cooperation as a modality, and stressing the role of the operational activities segment of the Economic and Social Council in monitoring the use of the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries,

"1. Endorses the report and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its eighth session; 3/

"2. Urges all Member States, the United Nations Development Programme and other programmes and bodies related to the Economic and Social Council, as well as the specialized agencies, to give high priority and full support in their particular fields of operational activities to technical cooperation among developing countries;

"3. Requests all the parties involved in the implementation of the strategy for the promotion and application of technical cooperation among

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ A/48/491.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/48/39).

developing countries in the 1990s 4/ to ensure the widespread use of such cooperation;

"4. Urges developed countries to support activities in technical cooperation among developing countries, particularly in the transfer of technology, and to assist developing countries in capacity-building, especially in science and technology, education and technical training and know-how;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of technical cooperation among developing countries in the United Nations development system and on the follow-up of the present resolution."

3. At the 45th meeting, on 6 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.7 (A/C.2/48/L.54).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.54 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution I).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.54, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.7 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.25 and L.73

6. At the 40th meeting, on 24 November, the representative of Botswana, on behalf of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community" (A/C.2/48/L.25), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Affirming its resolutions 37/248 of 21 December 1982, 38/160 of 19 December 1983, 39/215 of 18 December 1984, 40/195 of 17 December 1985, 42/181 of 11 December 1987 and 44/221 of 22 December 1989, and 46/160 of 19 December 1991, in which, inter alia, it requested the Secretary-General to promote cooperation between the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference and urged intensification of contacts in order to accelerate the achievement of the objectives of the Lusaka Declaration of 1 April 1980, by which the Conference was established,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 5/

4/ Ibid., decision 8/2, sect. I.

5/ A/48/495.

"Welcoming the transformation of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference into the Southern African Development Community, which is aimed at deepening and expanding the process of economic integration and cooperation in the region, involving the full participation of all citizens of the member States of the Community,

"Commending States members of the Community for demonstrating their support and commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation within the new Community,

"Noting the efforts made by the Community to implement its programme of action,

"Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

"Welcoming the endorsement by the Multiparty Negotiating Council of South Africa of the reintegration of Walvis Bay and the offshore islands into Namibia and the agreement reached between the Governments of Namibia and South Africa to complete the reintegration process by 28 February 1994,

"Noting that the effects of war, drought, loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructure in southern Africa demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

"Recognizing the positive developments that have taken place in South Africa, including the decisions to establish a Transitional Executive Council and to hold democratic elections on 27 April 1994,

"Expressing grave concern at the deterioration of the political and military situation in Angola, noting with consternation the further deterioration of the already grave humanitarian situation and emphasizing the importance of a continued and effective United Nations presence in Angola with a view to fostering the peace process and advancing the implementation of the Peace Accords for Angola,

"Noting with satisfaction the progress made so far in the implementation of the General Peace Agreement between the Government of Mozambique and the Resistencia Nacional Mozambican and observing that as a result life is gradually returning to normal in Mozambique,

"Noting the progress made by some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in formulating mechanisms for cooperation with the Community,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General, 5/ which describes progress made in the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly dealing with cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;

"2. Commends the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Community;

"3. Calls upon the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of doing so;

"4. Commends the members of the Community for the progress achieved so far in implementing its programme of action;

"5. Renews its appeal to the international community to increase its financial, technical and material support for the Community in order to enable it to fully implement its programme of action and meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs;

"6. Appeals to the international community and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to extend appropriate assistance to the Community in order to enable it to advance the process of regional economic integration, including the eventual participation in the process of a democratic, non-racial South Africa;

"7. Welcomes the economic and political reforms under way within the Community, which are intended to better address the challenges of regional cooperation and integration in the 1990s;

"8. Calls upon the South African authorities and all parties concerned to redouble efforts to end the violence and build a stronger foundation for the emergence of democracy in South Africa;

"9. Condemns the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola for continuing military actions which are increasing the suffering of the civilian population of Angola and damaging the Angolan economy, and demands that the Union immediately cease such actions;

"10. Welcomes the steps taken by the Secretary-General to implement the emergency humanitarian assistance plan for Angola and appeals to Member States to make generous contributions;

"11. Notes with appreciation the assistance and pledges made by Member States in support of the peace process in Mozambique and encourages the donor community to provide appropriate and prompt assistance for the implementation of all aspects of the General Peace Agreement;

"12. Reaffirms its appeal to the international community to continue extending assistance to Namibia in this stage of its independence, to enable it to implement its national development programme;

"13. Invites the donor community and other cooperating partners to participate at a high level in the Annual Consultative Conference of the Southern African Development Community, to be held in Gaborone from 29 to 31 January 1994;

"14. Commends the Secretary-General and members of the international community for their timely response to the drought situation in southern Africa, which has averted famine in the region and has initiated a process that will ensure a rapid response to situations of a similar nature in the future, and in this regard encourages the international community to continue to assist countries of the region in overcoming the effects of drought on a sustained basis;

"15. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

"16. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

7. At the 46th meeting, on 9 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.25 (A/C.2/48/L.73).

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.73 without a vote (see para. 10, draft resolution II).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.73, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.25 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 6/ and 46/159 of 19 December 1991, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41 of 30 July 1992,

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6/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

Stressing that technical cooperation among developing countries remains a key element in international cooperation, that it has a complementary role with respect to other forms of international technical cooperation and that its final purpose is to promote economic growth and development, in particular human resource development, utilizing the capacities of developing countries,

Reaffirming that, while developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing technical cooperation among themselves, the United Nations system and developed countries should assist and support such activities and that the United Nations system should continue to play a prominent role as promoter and catalyst of technical cooperation among developing countries, in accordance with the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

Taking note with satisfaction of the statement in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/159 7/ that the organizations of the United Nations system had reported an increased emphasis on activities in technical cooperation among developing countries and that nearly all of the responding organizations had reported having adopted or being in the process of adopting policies to accelerate the use of the modality of such cooperation, and stressing the role of the operational activities segment of the Economic and Social Council in monitoring the use of this modality,

1. Endorses the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its eighth session, 8/ and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee in annex I of its report;

2. Urges all Member States, in particular the developed countries among them, the United Nations Development Programme and other programmes and bodies whose work is related to that of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the specialized agencies, to give high priority and full support in their specific fields of operational activities to technical cooperation among developing countries, in the fields of, inter alia, science and technology, transfer of technology, capacity-building, education and technical training and know-how;

3. Requests all parties involved in the implementation of the strategy for the promotion and application of technical cooperation among developing countries in the 1990s, as referred to in the report of the High-level Committee 9/ to ensure the widespread use of such cooperation;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of technical cooperation among developing countries in the United Nations development system and on the follow-up to the present resolution.

7/ A/48/491.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/48/39).

9/ Ibid., annex I, decision 8/2, sect. I.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Affirming its resolutions 37/248 of 21 December 1982, 38/160 of 19 December 1983, 39/215 of 18 December 1984, 40/195 of 17 December 1985, 42/181 of 11 December 1987, 44/221 of 22 December 1989, and 46/160 of 19 December 1991, in which, inter alia, it requested the Secretary-General to promote cooperation between the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference and urged intensification of contacts in order to accelerate the achievement of the objectives of the Lusaka Declaration of 1 April 1980, by which the Conference was established,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 10/

Welcoming the transformation of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference into the Southern African Development Community, which is aimed at deepening and expanding the process of economic integration and cooperation in the region, involving the full participation of all citizens of the member States of the Community,

Commending States members of the Community for demonstrating their support and commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation within the new Community,

Noting the efforts made by the Community to implement its programme of action,

Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Multi-party Negotiating Council of South Africa of the reintegration of Walvis Bay and the offshore islands into Namibia and the agreement reached between the Governments of Namibia and South Africa to complete the reintegration process by 28 February 1994,

Noting that the effects of war, drought, loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructure in southern Africa demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

Recognizing the positive developments that have taken place in South Africa, including the decisions to establish a Transitional Executive Council and to hold democratic elections on 27 April 1994,

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10/ A/48/495 and Add.1.

Expressing grave concern at the unsettled and deteriorating political and military situation in Angola, noting with continued concern the grave humanitarian situation and emphasizing the importance of a continued and effective United Nations presence in promoting a negotiated settlement in Angola with a view to fostering the peace process,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made so far in the implementation of the General Peace Agreement between the Government of Mozambique and the Resistência Nacional Moçambicana, observing that as a result life is gradually returning to normal in Mozambique and emphasizing the continuing need for positive action by all parties concerned,

Noting the progress made by some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in formulating mechanisms for cooperation with the Community,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General, 10/ which describes progress made in the implementation of the resolutions of the General Assembly dealing with cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;

2. Commends the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have maintained, enhanced and initiated development cooperation with the Community;

3. Calls upon the Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of doing so;

4. Commends the members of the Community for the progress achieved so far in implementing its programme of action and encouraging further such efforts;

5. Renews its appeal to the international community to increase its financial, technical and material support for the Community in order to enable it to fully implement its programme of action and meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs;

6. Appeals to the international community and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to extend appropriate assistance to the Community in order to enable it to advance the process of regional economic integration, including the participation in the process of a democratic, non-racial South Africa as soon as possible;

7. Welcomes the economic and political reforms under way within the Community, which are intended better to address the challenges of regional cooperation and integration in the 1990s;

8. Calls upon the South African authorities and all parties concerned to redouble efforts to end the violence and build a stronger foundation for the emergence of democracy in South Africa;

9. Regrets the unbecoming actions of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, which are increasing the suffering of the civilian population of Angola, which is increasingly in need of help, causing an intolerable refugee problem and damaging the Angolan economy, and demands that the Union permanently cease such actions;

10. Welcomes the steps taken by the Secretary-General to implement the emergency humanitarian assistance plan for Angola, and appeals to Member States to make generous contributions;

11. Notes with appreciation the assistance and pledges made by Member States in support of the peace process in Mozambique, and encourages the donor community to provide appropriate and prompt assistance for the implementation of all aspects of the General Peace Agreement;

12. Reaffirms its appeal to the international community to continue extending assistance to Namibia in this stage of its independence, to enable it to implement its national development programme;

13. Invites the donor community and other cooperating partners to participate at a high level in the Annual Consultative Conference of the Southern African Development Community, to be held at Gaborone from 26 to 28 January 1994;

14. Commends the Secretary-General and members of the international community for their timely response to the drought situation in southern Africa, which has averted famine in the region and has initiated a process that will ensure a rapid response to situations of a similar nature in the future, and in this regard encourages the international community to assist countries of the region in overcoming the effects of drought on a sustained basis;

15. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

16. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

Report of the Second Committee (Part VII)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 91 (see A/48/717, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (e) was considered at the 43rd and 47th meetings, on 3 and 10 December 1993. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.43 and 47).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.49

2. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft decision entitled "Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas" (A/C.2/48/L.49), submitted by him, and orally revised it as follows:

3. At the end of paragraph (c), the phrase "and thereafter annually, on the implementation of that resolution" was replaced with the phrase "and to submit subsequently annual updates on further developments relevant to the implementation of resolution 46/215".

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* The report on this agenda item will be issued in 12 parts under the symbol A/48/717 and addenda.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.2/48/L.49, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 11).

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/48/L.58 and L.83

5. At the 43rd meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme" (A/C.2/48/L.58), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it decided to establish a Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

"Recalling also decision 15/1, of 25 May 1989, of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in which the Council, inter alia, reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the central catalysing, coordinating and stimulating body in the field of environment within the United Nations system,

"Recalling further decisions 16/6 and 16/1, both of 31 May 1991, of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in the latter of which the Council supported the retaining at United Nations Environment Programme headquarters in Nairobi of the programme activity centres already located there, decided that future major extensions to the physical or other infrastructure of the Programme, particularly those with global functions, be centred principally at Nairobi, and requested the Executive Director to examine the feasibility of providing on-site interpretation facilities and to continue negotiations with the host Government with a view to improving the facilities available at the headquarters office at Nairobi, including external communication services,

"Reaffirming paragraph 38.21 of Agenda 21, 1/ in which it was stated that there would be a need for an enhanced and strengthened role for the United Nations Environment Programme and its Governing Council,

"Reaffirming also paragraph 38.22 of Agenda 21, in which it was stated that priority areas on which the United Nations Environment Programme should concentrate included, inter alia, developing and promoting the use of such techniques as natural resource accounting and environmental economics, environmental monitoring and assessment, strengthening and making operational its early warning function, further development of

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

international environmental law and support to Governments in the integration of environmental aspects into their development policies,

"Reaffirming further paragraphs 25, 26 and 32 (c) of its resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992,

"Commending the United Nations Environment Programme for its leading role in the negotiation of many international conventions on environment, its mobilization of global environmental awareness, and its contribution in the area of capacity-building in regard to the preservation of the environment and its integration into sustainable development,

"Mindful of the need to rationalize environment-related meetings so as to ensure effective capacity utilization at United Nations Environment Programme headquarters,

"1. Endorses the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its seventeenth session; 2/

"2. Stresses the need for close cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on Sustainable Development in implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in accordance with the relevant provisions of chapter 38 of Agenda 21;

"3. Welcomes the action-oriented approach of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme towards the implementation of the follow-up activities to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development as outlined in the report mentioned in paragraph 1 above;

"4. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Kenya for the grant of an additional 40 acres of land for the expansion of office facilities and the improvement of the communications network so as to ensure that the United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations organs, agencies and programmes based at Nairobi work in a conducive environment;

"5. Invites the Secretary-General to establish a liaison office at Nairobi for the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development, on the basis of arrangements made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as called for in paragraph 32 (c) of General Assembly resolution 47/191;

"6. Endorses resolution 17/32 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the Environment Fund and urges Member States to contribute to the Fund, to make their payments in advance of the year to which those payments relate and to pay their contributions early in the year in order to enable the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme to plan and execute programmes more effectively, and

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2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/48/25).

emphasizes that high priority should be given to activities that offer direct or indirect substantial support to developing countries;

"7. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to ensure that more environment-related meetings are held at Programme headquarters so as to maximize utilization of conference facilities and services;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the programming of environment-related meetings is rationalized to facilitate economy and more effective capacity utilization at United Nations Environment Programme headquarters;

"9. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

6. At the 47th meeting, on 10 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano Resendiz (Mexico), introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.83), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.58, and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 5, after the words "duly taking", the word "fully" was deleted;

(b) Operative paragraph 6, which had read:

"Endorses resolution 17/32 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the Environment Fund and urges Member States to contribute to the Fund, to make their payments in advance of the year to which those payments relate and to pay their contributions early in the year in order to enable the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme to plan and execute programmes more effectively, and emphasizes that high priority should be given to activities that offer direct or indirect substantial support to developing countries;"

was replaced with the following paragraph:

"Urges Member States to make their contributions to the Environment Fund in accordance with decision 17/32 of 21 May 1993, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventeenth session."

7. The representative of Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), supported by the representative of Australia, amended the text of operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution by replacing the word "forty-ninth" with the word "fiftieth" in the last line.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.83, as orally revised and amended, without a vote (see para. 10).

9. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.83, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.58 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it decided to establish a Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also decision 15/1 of 25 May 1989 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in which the Governing Council, inter alia, reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the central catalysing, coordinating and stimulating body in the field of environment within the United Nations system,

Recalling further decisions 16/6 and 16/1, both of 31 May 1991, of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in the latter of which the Council supported the retaining at United Nations Environment Programme headquarters at Nairobi of the programme activity centres already located there, decided that future major extensions to the physical or other infrastructure of the Programme, particularly those with global functions, be centred principally at Nairobi, and requested the Executive Director to examine the feasibility of providing on-site interpretation facilities and to continue negotiations with the host Government with a view to improving the facilities available at the headquarters office at Nairobi, including external communication services,

Reaffirming paragraphs 38.21 and 38.23 of Agenda 21, 3/ in which it was stated that there would be a need for an enhanced and strengthened role for the United Nations Environment Programme and its Governing Council, that, inter alia, the regional offices of the Programme should be strengthened without weakening its headquarters at Nairobi and its liaison and interaction with the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank should be reinforced and intensified,

Reaffirming further paragraphs 25, 26 and 32 (c) of its resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992,

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3/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

Commending the United Nations Environment Programme for its leading role in the negotiation of many international conventions on the environment, its mobilization of global environmental awareness and its contribution in the area of capacity-building in regard to the preservation of the environment and its integration into sustainable development,

Mindful of the need to rationalize meetings related to the United Nations Environment Programme so as to ensure effective capacity utilization at United Nations Environment Programme headquarters,

1. Endorses the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its seventeenth session and the decisions contained therein; 4/

2. Stresses the need for close cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on Sustainable Development in implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in accordance with the relevant provisions of chapter 38 of Agenda 21;

3. Welcomes the action-oriented approach of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme towards the implementation of the follow-up activities to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development as outlined in the report mentioned in paragraph 1 above;

4. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Kenya for the grant of an additional forty acres of land for the expansion of office facilities and the improvement of the communications network, and encourages it to continue to ensure that the United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations organs, agencies and programmes based at Nairobi work in a conducive and hospitable environment;

5. Invites the Secretary-General to strengthen further the liaison function at Nairobi for the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development, on the basis of arrangements made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, duly taking into account all relevant provisions of paragraph 32 (c) of General Assembly resolution 47/191;

6. Urges Member States to make their contributions to the Environment Fund in accordance with decision 17/32 of 21 May 1993, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its seventeenth session;

7. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to ensure that as many meetings as possible related to the United Nations Environment Programme are held at the headquarters of the Programme so as to maximize utilization of conference facilities and services;

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/48/25).

8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the programming of meetings related to the United Nations Environment Programme is rationalized to facilitate economy and more effective capacity utilization at United Nations Environment Programme headquarters;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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1[*]. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas

The General Assembly, taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General, 5/ decides:

(a) To reaffirm the importance it attaches to compliance with its resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991;

(b) To express its appreciation of the measures taken by members of the international community, international organizations and regional economic integration organizations to implement and support the objectives of resolution 46/215, while expressing concern at reports of conduct and activities inconsistent with the terms of resolution 46/215;

(c) To call on all members of the international community, intergovernmental organizations, regional economic integration organizations and appropriate non-governmental organizations to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of resolution 46/215, and requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its forty-ninth session, and to submit subsequently annual updates on further developments relevant to the implementation of resolution 46/215.

5/ A/48/451 and Corr.1.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Report of the Second Committee (Part VIII)*

Rapporteur: Ms. Irene FREUDENSCHUSS-REICHL (Austria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 91 (see A/48/717, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (f) was considered at the 42nd and 45th meetings, on 29 November and 6 December 1993. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/48/SR.42 and 45).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.2/48/L.45 AND L.66

2. At the 42nd meeting, on 29 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Drought and desertification" (A/C.2/48/L.45), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, in which it approved the report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, 1/

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* The report on this agenda item will be issued in several parts under the symbol A/48/717 and addenda.

1/ A/CONF.74/36.

containing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 2/ and its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

"Recalling also the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, set forth in chapter 12, entitled "Managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought", of Agenda 21, 3/ which develop and complete the decisions of the Plan of Action,

"Concerned by the worldwide continued degradation of soil resources, particularly in Africa,

"Noting that in the long term the problem of drought, desertification and the degradation of the productive capacity of the soil has serious worldwide economic and social consequences that threaten the security and well-being of all countries,

"Welcoming the ongoing negotiations to elaborate an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa,

"Noting the active role played by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in combating drought and the important contribution of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to African countries in the ongoing process of negotiating an international convention to combat desertification,

"Taking note of the recommendation contained in paragraph 38.27 of Agenda 21 and of decision 93/33 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, in which the Council encouraged the Administrator to strengthen the substantive role and maintain the identity of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office as focal point within the United Nations Development Programme for all matters related to drought and desertification control,

"Recalling the appeals to the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme to continue and strengthen their cooperation in combating desertification, notably through the joint venture programme's support to the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office,

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2/ Ibid., part one, chap. I.

3/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

"Having examined the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the Plan of Action and of the medium-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 4/

"1. Urges the international community to increase its financial technical and material support to countries most affected by drought and desertification in order to support their effort to translate the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development into concrete activities to implement the programmes outlines in chapter 12 of Agenda 21;

"2. Takes note with satisfaction of decision 93/33 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, in which the Council decided that the experience and technical expertise of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in drought and desertification control should be made available to all affected countries, in particular those in Africa;

"3. Recommends that the cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme ensured by the joint agreement to support the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region be strengthened and enlarged in the context of implementing Agenda 21 but without prejudice to the particular attention that must be paid to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region;

"4. Appeals to donor countries to contribute to the United Nations fund for the Sudano-Sahelian region to allow it to continue to bring effective assistance to African countries within the framework of the negotiation process for an international convention to combat desertification and to assist the affected countries in implementing chapter 12 of Agenda 21;

"5. Appeals urgently to the members of the international community, particularly donor countries, to support the effort being exerted to combat drought and desertification on subregional levels, inter alia, within subregional intergovernmental organizations such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, the Permanent Inter-State Committee to Combat Drought in the Sahel, the Southern African Development Community and the Arab Maghreb Union;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At the 45th meeting, on 6 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leandro Arellano (Mexico) introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/48/L.66) submitted on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.45, and orally revised, the English text only, as follows:

4/ A/48/216.

(a) At the beginning of operative paragraph 5, before the words "members of the international community", the word "affected" was deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 5, before the words "subregional levels", the word "affected" was inserted.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.66, as orally revised in the English text only, without a vote (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.66, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.45 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Drought and desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, 5/ containing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 6/ and its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development set forth in chapter 12, entitled "Managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought", of Agenda 21, 7/ which develop and complete the decisions of the Plan of Action,

Concerned about the continued world-wide degradation of soil resources, particularly in Africa,

Noting that in the long term the problems of drought, desertification and degradation of the productive capacity of the soil has serious world-wide economic and social consequences that threaten the security and well-being of all affected countries,

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5/ A/CONF.74/36.

6/ Ibid., part one, chap. I.

7/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Stressing the importance of the ongoing negotiations to elaborate an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa,

Noting the active role played by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in combating drought and the important contribution of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to African countries in the ongoing process of negotiating an international convention to combat desertification,

Taking note of the recommendation contained in paragraph 38.27 of Agenda 21 and of decision 93/33 of 18 June 1993 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, 8/ in which the Council encouraged the Administrator to strengthen the substantive role and maintain the identity of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office as the focal point within the United Nations Development Programme for all matters related to drought and desertification control, in particular those in Africa, in accordance with the ongoing process of integrating the Office into the core programme of the United Nations Development Programme,

Recalling the appeals to the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme to continue and strengthen their cooperation in combating desertification, notably through the support for the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office by the joint venture programme,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and of the medium-term recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 9/

1. Welcomes the support of the international community and urges it to continue its financial, technical and material support to the countries most affected by drought and desertification in order to support their effort to translate the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development into concrete activities to implement the programmes outlined in chapter 12 of Agenda 21, duly taking into account the provisions of the future international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa;

2. Takes note with satisfaction of decision 93/33 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, in which the Council decided that the experience and technical expertise of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in drought and desertification control should be made available to all affected countries, in particular those in Africa;

3. Recommends that the cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme ensured by the joint

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8/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 15 (E/1993/35).

9/ A/48/216.

agreement to support the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in the Sudano-Sahelian region, in a manner consistent with the outcome of the future convention, be strengthened and enlarged in the context of implementing Agenda 21, but without prejudice to the particular attention that must be paid to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region;

4. Appeals to donor countries to contribute to the United Nations fund for the Sudano-Sahelian region to allow it to continue to bring effective assistance to African countries within the framework of the negotiation process for an international convention to combat desertification and to assist the affected countries in implementing chapter 12 of Agenda 21;

5. Appeals urgently to the members of the international community, particularly donor countries, to support the effort being exerted to combat drought and desertification on affected subregional levels, inter alia, within subregional intergovernmental organizations, such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, the Permanent Inter-State Committee to Combat Drought in the Sahel, the Southern African Development Community and the Arab Maghreb Union, as well as within the programmes, funds and relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.